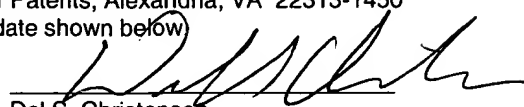


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on or before the date shown below

  
Del S. Christensen

Date: March 22, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of )

WILHELMUS H. P. M. HEIJNEN )

Serial No. 09/724,079 )

Filed November 28, 2000 )

PIPE CONNECTING METHOD )

Group Art Unit: 3726

Examiner: Essama Omgba

Date: March 22, 2004

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

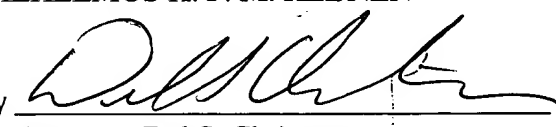
**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**  
**FOR RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a)**

Applicant petitions for a five-month extension of time in accordance with 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Please charge the \$2,010.00 fee to Shell Oil Company, Deposit Account No. 19-1800. An extra copy of this Petition is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

WILHELMUS H. P. M. HEIJNEN

By   
Attorney, Del S. Christensen  
Registration No. 33,482  
(713) 241-3997

P. O. Box 2463  
Houston, Texas 77252-2463

Attachments

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